



CENTRAL SAN PEDRO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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May 12, 2015

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Subject: Comments on the Gaffey Street DRAFT Conceptual Plan

From the beginning, this neighborhood council has actively participated in the creation of this plan by publicizing, helping facilitate and attending its public workshops. We thank you for the funding supplied and all of the effort expended to make this process happen. These comments come on the recommendation of the CSPNC Land Use and Public Works Committee from its April 30th meeting, adopted by the CSPNC Board on May 12, 2015. We have these comments and requests:

1. We agree with the special recommendations made in Section 2 (pgs 10-11) regarding:
 - a. The rapid completion of the Exit Park.
 - b. The redevelopment of the Social Security Bldg at 336 N. Gaffey St.
 - c. The erection of attractive temporary fencing to screen vacant properties (in particular, we note the poor condition of the vacant lot at the NW corner of Sepulveda and Gaffey St).
 - d. The creation of a Specific Plan to guide and provide incentives for development between the freeway access ramps and 2nd Street.
 - e. Encouragement for a Gaffey Street BID to provide for enhanced local services.
2. We ask that these relatively minor additions be made to the final report:
 - a. Detailed traffic count and accident data used in this analysis to be provided for future community reference, in the Appendix.
 - b. Refer to community design guidelines (City of Los Angeles Commercial Design Guidelines, Pacific Corridor Design Guidelines, and policy contained in the Downtown San Pedro Community Design Overlay District), emphasizing that these should be observed as redevelopment proceeds.

- c. Include bus stops as areas listed to be targeted for public art.
3. We hope to see good use made of the grant-funded Library pop up plaza concept for community events, including neighborhood council use. We would like to know by what process (and cost, if applicable) events could be scheduled in this venue.
4. We found these items lacking in the report:
 - a. A preliminary study of suggested improvements for the First and Gaffey intersection, and approximation of the ROW acquisitions that would be necessary.
 - b. Some special design emphasis at the intersection of Seventh & Gaffey, pointing to the LA Waterfront.
 - c. A street tree plan, developed as a part of an outreach process.
5. We would like confirmation that LAPD, LAFD and LADOT review the report and provide their expertise as to the feasibility of proposed improvements; in particular, we would like the corner bulbout concept thoroughly vetted.
6. We understand that LADOT will be looking into the possibility of further traffic signal coordination/optimization, and ask that they also look into the possibility of streamlining their traffic signage for a more orderly appearance, eliminating any unnecessary sign poles.
7. We look forward to the formation of a Gaffey Street BID, but in the interim hope to see Joe's Office provide some dedicated funding for street cleaning and maintenance, including special attention to street trees and other landscaping. Our goal should be to have a regular maintenance schedule that could be collaboratively shared with the Gaffey Street property and business owners.
8. Finally, we ask that you review the project budget with the community in order to prioritize spending. We expect that you will vet the recommended street tree grates with Urban Forestry with regard to long-term maintenance and effects on tree health.

If you have any questions on these matters, please contact our Land Use Committee Chair, Sue Castillo, at (310) 489-3026.

Sincerely,



James Preston Allen
President



Sue Castillo
Land Use Committee Chair